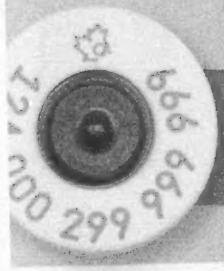
Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments

Requirements for Livestock Carriers



Livestock Identification and Traceability Program

Canada

The objective of the national Livestock Identification and Traceability program is to provide accurate and up-to-date livestock identity, movement and location information to mitigate the impact of disease outbreaks, food safety issues and natural disasters.

This brochure provides an overview of federal livestock identification and traceability requirements. Note that provincial and territorial requirements may also apply.

CATTLE, BISON, SHEEP AND PIGS

Lost tags during transport

You can continue to transport an animal that has lost its approved tag while being transported. The operator of the destination site must apply a new approved tag as soon as the animal arrives at its destination.

An animal that loses its approved tag on the way to slaughter does not need to be re-tagged.

Identifying dead stock

Cattle, bison and sheep dead stock...
must be identified with an approved tag if they are moved off the farm of origin (or any other site) for disposal.

Pig dead stock...
do not need to be identified with an approved tag or approved slap tattoo, whether or not they are moved off-site for disposal.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR CATTLE, BISON AND SHEEP

Cattle, bison and sheep do not need to be identified with an approved tag while living on their farm of origin.

However, you cannot transport cattle, bison or sheep without identifying them with an approved tag before they leave their farm of origin or other departure site.

The only exception to this requirement is for cattle and bison that you send to a tagging site.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PIGS

Transporting pigs

Please note that requirements for pigs will apply as of July 1, 2014 and for farmed wild boars as of July 1, 2015.

Farm operators do not need to re-identify pigs that already bear an approved tag before they leave their departure site to be moved to another site.

What do I need to do if I move pigs within the same part of a farm or to a contiguous part of the same farm?

The farm operator does not need to identify the pigs or report their movements.

What do I need to do if I move pigs between parts of a farm that are not contiguous or between different farms?

The farm operators do not have to identify the pigs if

- they are accompanied by a form that can be immediately read by an inspector, and
- the operators of BOTH the departure and destination sites report the animals' movements to the Canadian Pork Council (their responsible administrator).

Exception: Farm operators must identify bred pigs with approved tags before they leave the departure site. You must make sure that bred pigs that you transport have approved tags.

What do I need to do if I move pigs between farms that are registered as linked?

If pigs are regularly transported between the same farms or between same sites within a farm, the farm operators can submit a request to the Canadian Pork Council that those sites be registered as linked. If the request is accepted,

- the farm operator must report the movement between those farms monthly, and
- when you move pigs to a linked farm, they must be accompanied by a form that can be immediately read by an inspector.

Exception: Farm operators must identify bred pigs with approved tags if they are moved between registered linked sites. You must make sure that bred pigs that you transport have an approved tag.

What do I need to do if I move pigs to auctions, fairs, test stations or insemination centres?

You must make sure all pigs are identified—including bred pigs—with an approved tag before they leave the departure site. The number on the approved tag must be unique to each pig.

What do I need to do if I move pigs to assembly yards?

You must make sure pigs are identified either with an approved tag or an approved slap tattoo before they leave the farm.

The approved tag can either be a herd mark (identification number that is unique to the site of departure) or an individual identification number that is unique to each pig.

What do I need to do if I move pigs directly to an abattoir from a farm?

You must make sure pigs are identified either with an approved tag or an approved slap tattoo that has a herd mark.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FORM ACCOMPANYING PIGS

When you transport pigs, they must be accompanied by a form. The form can be either electronic or paper, provided that

- all of the required information is clearly indicated, and
- it can be easily read by an inspector.

The form needs to contain the following information:

- the location of the sites where you loaded the pigs AND where you unloaded them;
- the date and time that pigs were loaded into the conveyance;
- the number of pigs that you transported; and
- the licence plate of the conveyance that you used to transport the pigs.

For additional information on the regulatory requirements and on Canada's Livestock Identification and Traceability Program, please visit the CFIA website: www.inspection.gc.ca/traceability.

Definitions:

Livestock traceability: The ability to follow an animal or dead stock from one point in the supply chain to another.

Tag: Refers to approved tags that are provided by the CFIA.

Bred: Animals that are mated either naturally or artificially or that has provided semen, ova or embryos for reproduction.

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